



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2007
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LOUISVILLE MAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL DRUG AND WEAPONS OFFENSES

– .45 Caliber Pistol, Over 50 Grams of “Crack” Cocaine Seized

LOUISVILLE, KY - A federal grand jury in Louisville returned an indictment against **Derrick D. Hammond**, age 22, of Louisville, Jefferson County, on charges of possessing “crack” cocaine for sale and possession of a handgun in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced.

The Indictment alleges that on February 9, 2006, Hammond possessed over fifty grams of cocaine base, also known as “crack” cocaine, with the intent to distribute it. Hammond is also charged with possessing a Haskell model JS-45 .45 caliber pistol in furtherance of the crack cocaine distribution offense. The approximate street value of the crack cocaine involved in the offense is \$11,700.00.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are life imprisonment, a \$4,250,000 fine, and supervised release for life; and the minimum potential penalties are 15 years imprisonment, and supervised release for a period of 4 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas W. Dyke. The ATF Louisville Field Office conducted the investigation in partnership with the Louisville Metropolitan Police Department as part of ATF’s mandate to reduce violent crime and other

threats to public safety.

Hammond is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on August 21, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in Louisville, Kentucky.

This is a Project Backfire prosecution. Project Backfire is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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